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Luton TOWN







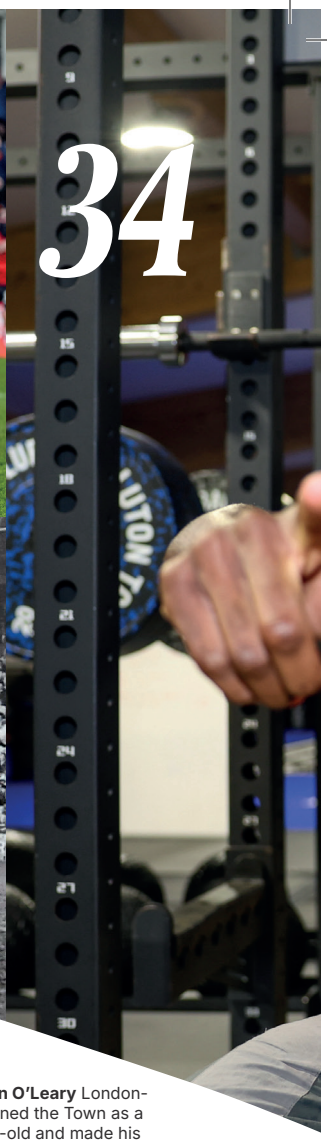
SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2026 12.31PM

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COVER CHARACTERS













Paul Showler Winger who played part-time at Altrincham while being a police officer before moving into full-time football with Barnet. A switch to Bradford followed and then, in 1996, he arrived at Kenilworth Road. Initially a regular in the side, well regarded as a maker and taker of goals, Paul then picked up a series of injuries and made only four appearances in two years. After retiring he became a physiotherapist.

Reece Burke Defender Reece came through the ranks at West Ham and enjoyed a season-long loan at Valley Parade in 2015/16. After a move to Hull in 2018 he joined the Hatters in 2021 and was a first team regular until injuries hit. Came on to star in the play-off final win at Wembley and then played 22 times in the Premier League. Was again a regular last term before moving to Charlton in the summer.

Andy Kiwomya An England youth international he became a regular at Bradford but, after an injury to Paul Shower, the winger arrived here on loan in March 1997. Andy made an immediate impact; by starring in a 2-0 win at Burnley on his debut but played four more times for the Hatters that season, scoring in a defeat at Walsall. He was loaned out to Burnley before he finished his league career at Notts County.

Chris Kamara Chris joined the Navy and while stationed at Portsmouth caught the eye of Pompey scouts and made his debut against Luton as a 17-year-old in 1975. A tough tackling midfield leader, Chris went through a variety of clubs before joining David Pleat's Luton in November 1991 as the Hatters were clinging on to top-flight football. Chris finished his playing career at Bradford City before managing the Bantams.

Stephen O'Leary London-born joined the Town as a 13-year-old and made his league debut as a substitute in a 4-1 home win over Brentford in February 2004. He was loaned out to Tranmere in 2005/06 but returned to sign a one-year extension in May 2007. However, he turned down a new deal a year later and moved to Hereford and Bradford before multiple stints in non-league football.

Paul McLaren High Wycombe-born Paul joined the Town as a trainee before making his debut on the final day of the 1993/94 campaign. He suffered knee ligament injuries early in his career but bounced back to star in a poor Hatters side that were relegated in 2001. McLaren moved to Sheffield Wednesday, where he stayed three years, before spells at Rotherham, Tranmere and Bradford.

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the PROGRAMME

MADE IN LUTON
Print Bartham Press
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Additional photos Dave Horn, Duncan Jack, Shutterstock
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With thanks to the media department at Bradford City
The views in this programme are not necessarily those of Luton Town Football Club

Welcome

It's certainly been a hectic week since we were last on home turf.

It started with the deserved 1-0 win here against Blackpool last weekend and then continued on Monday when we were busy on the final day of the transfer window.

Before a ball was kicked against the Tangerines, we announced the arrival of striker Devante Cole and then we completed our business late on Monday evening with two new faces in the shape of Sverre Sandal and Davy van den Berg.

You can find out more about our three new signings elsewhere in today's programme, and learn who also left Kenilworth Road in the past week as Jack Wilshere continues to shape his squad.

Turning our attention back to this afternoon, we have a big test against Bradford City, a side enjoying a fine season to date.

Please give our new signings a warm welcome and get behind the team this afternoon. Your support makes a difference.

Come on Luton!

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"THE IDENTITY OF THE TEAM IS GROWING AND BECOMING CLEARER, BUT WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE SIGHT OF WHAT REALLY MATTERS, **WHICH IS, OF COURSE, ATTACKING THE GOAL.**

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THE BOSS

Jack WILSHERE

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road. After the disappointment of Huddersfield, it was important that we responded in the right way against Blackpool.

We spoke honestly with the players about that result and about the fact it wasn't acceptable that we didn't win the game, however, just as important was how we bounced back. The challenge was to put in a performance, show resilience and find a way to win – and I thought the team did exactly that.

I was really pleased with the performance. I felt we started the game very well, particularly in the opening 20 minutes where we carried a real threat and put them under pressure. As the game went on, they became more stubborn and we had to adapt. In the second half we found our rhythm again, showed more purpose and asked more questions of them. The message was clear: keep attacking their box, keep making them defend and keep believing – and eventually we got the goal we deserved.

A big focus for us recently has been having real purpose in our play, especially in attacking areas. The identity of the team is growing and becoming clearer, but we don't want to lose sight of what really matters, which is, of course, attacking the goal.

Sometimes when you try to play through the lines quickly, you can lose that threat in the box, so we've spoken a lot about getting numbers forward, getting shots off and making sure we're a constant problem for the opposition. I thought the boys did that really well last weekend.

After the game we then focused on the end of the winter transfer window. Deadline day always brings change, and there are players who have moved on who deserve our thanks for everything they've given to this club. At the same time, we're pleased with the business we've done and the players we've brought in.

Sverre is someone we've been aware of for a while and have watched closely. He's a talented midfielder who can play as a six or an eight, with the ability to start attacks from deep through his passing and power. We think he'll suit English football well and we're excited to see how he can help us progress.

Davy comes with a strong pedigree in Dutch football, a promotion to their top-flight and regular experience in that division. He's also had playing time in the Europa League this season. He's an attacking midfielder with a lovely left foot who can bring something different to our squad, and he's a player who I'm sure will get our supporters on the edge of their seats.

We announced the arrival of Devante before the game last Saturday and he is an exciting addition and a proven goalscorer at this level. He's hugely experienced, has scored regularly in recent seasons and will bring real competition to our forward areas. He's ready to go and we're looking forward to seeing the impact he can make.

Back to today. Last weekend was about bouncing back, and now it's about building on that.

Enjoy it, get behind the team, bring the energy and help us keep pushing forward together.



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GARY SWEET



Welcome back to Kenilworth Road for this lunchtime kick-off against a Bradford City side who have had an impressive first half of the season following their promotion from League Two.

It's the Bantams' first visit to Bedfordshire since our 2018/19 title-winning season, when Elliot Lee's brace and a goal each from Harry Cornick and a certain James Justin were on target in a 4-0 win.

From afar in recent weeks, we've seen our older JJ scoring in the Premier League for his current club, Leeds, while before our own eyes we have witnessed the more recent version, JJ Junior, emerging in the left-back position as Joe Johnson grows in stature and confidence each week.

It's a source of pride for our Academy that Joe and Zack Nelson, along with the likes of Christian Chigozie, Harry Fox, Zach Ioannides, Jack Lorentzen-Jones, Dawid Gawel and Fin Evans have all featured in first team action this season, and that another local lad, Josh Neufville, will be in the opposition squad today.

Sometimes a player has to leave the club at which they come through in order to find their feet in professional football, and Josh is certainly one who has done that with AFC Wimbledon and Bradford, as he approaches 250 career appearances by the age of 24.

We welcome Josh back to Kenilworth Road, along with his Bradford manager Graham Alexander, who made 183 of his 1,024 career appearances during his four-year spell with us in the late 1990s.

Last week's 1-0 victory over Blackpool here was a deserved and much-needed result after two successive away defeats, and today we look to close the gap on the play-offs by making it 10 league games unbeaten at home.

Turning our home into a fearsome fortress again has been high on Jack and Chris' priority list since they took control, which is so welcome after an extensive period of players finding it difficult to perform consistently here. Thankfully, this has changed in recent weeks and months, which serves as a massive confidence-booster for our current squad and our new arrivals.

So, lo and behold, we now have another opportunity to continue to build our home form courtesy of Wednesday's anticipated and highly expected EFL disciplinary decision falling in our favour which revealed that Swindon had been removed from the Vertu Trophy. This came as a result of them fielding not one, but two players who either were not named on the official matchday team-sheet or should have been serving a seven-match suspension.

It was an inevitability that we would progress to a quarter-final at home to Plymouth and, although at the time of writing we do not have a confirmed date for the fixture, we know that it will not be this coming Tuesday, 10th February, as scheduled.

Before kick-off last Saturday we announced the third of our five January signings, by welcoming Devante Cole joining on a permanent contract from Port Vale. Devante is a tried and tested striker who, while playing in a struggling side, has proved his value this season as we found to our cost in December, and previously in his last two League One campaigns in which he helped Barnsley into the play-offs.

This leads me nicely into a little review of this winter transfer window that closed on Monday night.

Having earlier welcomed Emilio Lawrence and Kasey Palmer – who in the last two games especially has really shown his quality and how important his experience will be for us as he gains momentum with every match in the heart of our midfield – we entered the last week of the inevitably tumultuous window.

A warm welcome also, not only to Luton but to England, to Sverre Sandal and Davy van den Berg who arrive from the Norwegian and Dutch top divisions respectively. As Jack has already explained,

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Jack discusses the Hatters' transfer window

Sverre will need a little time to get fully up to speed as his season with KFUM finished at the end of November and he is currently in his pre-season. However, on the upside, it won't be a prolonged absence and he's young, fresh and raring to go.

Like Emilio, Davy felt like he needed a new challenge, but he is at a great age where he already has valuable big game experience from his time in the Eredivisie with Zwolle and Utrecht, as well in the UEFA Europa League this season.

With five players coming in and 10 departing (11 if we include Ethon Archer's loan upgrade) it meant a reduction in squad numbers by five from the opening half of the season, which exhibits another very active window for us.

Squad churn is always inevitable during the summer, but now we are adapting in style to a new manager, enacting a more aggressive transition made sense at this time, especially given the specific manner how Jack wants us to play, idealistically. Ultimately, we want to get to this point as soon as we possibly can.

We entered the window with a detailed and tailored plan agreed with Jack; to reduce quantity, add quality, increase technicality, blend experience and maturity with energy and youth but with an intent that they can impact now without compromising our growth potential beyond this season.

By and large, we are pleased with the accomplishment of those objectives, supporting Jack with very specific characteristics, which as a board and staff we were more than happy to do.

Going into the last 17 games with Jack and Chris leading us, the principle of less is more is perfectly apt. We now have a tighter group, a more efficient squad to manage, more adaptability and with greater technicality with the addition of some certain targets. Simply, 'more Luton', if you like.

Caring for those departing us, temporarily or permanently, is always important to us. A vital aim was to retain a player's talent value, or even improve upon it, hence why it was our preference to loan players out – to either gain good experience so they can be more useful to us next season, or to improve their chances of either playing for us or to increase their value should they or we decide they move on permanently.

That said, the backdrop of this window meant that this was one of the most challenging trading periods yet, and there are several reasons for this.

As we often iterate with every winter that passes, the January market is very different to the summer market. It's far more reactive with limited players available as every player is in the mid-term of their contract. It also relies heavily on other clubs' movements for replacements, which makes most late, reactive moves almost impossible.

But this January in particular, the whole market saw very little activity. It was one of the lowest spending winter windows on record with very little big money flowing down the food-chain, which resulted in very late, panic buying by other clubs – something we simply needed to carefully avoid.

All our incoming business was planned and balanced to not only help us immediately, but also with a longer lens focus. Davy was a player we looked at bringing in last summer, who should be able to affect our midfield from minute one, while Sverre has been a data-led target for some time, having been observed in a market we know very well.

Like it or not, AI-led data techniques are used greatly at the top end of the game as they are an amazing tool if used as an evidence-supporting function, and are more and more adopted uniquely by us, while recognising that they can never be influential in final decision making. Computers aren't 'taking over the world' yet ;-)

Having suffered two key injuries in the days before the deadline also meant we had to be very adaptable in our approach in replacing them, if possible, and added a necessity for those who joined us to be adaptable to different ways of playing.

Thankfully now the window is closed, Jack, our staff and our tight squad of players can focus on the job in hand, we can finally kiss goodbye to the burden of expectation that comes as a 'parachute tax', >>

> ***"WE ARE PLEASED WITH THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OUR OVERALL STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, SUPPORTING JACK WITH VERY SPECIFIC CHARACTERISTICS.***

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>> and we can spend the next three, hopefully four, months concentrating solely on our ambitions on the pitch and the target of promotion back to the Championship.

Upon closure, we also took the earliest chance to trigger our option to transfer Gideon Kodua on a permanent basis. Knowing Gids will be with us for the longer term will be received very positively, and is a move we are all excited about as it neatly transfers a loan to a permanent registration, making our squad even more manageable for Jack.

While we wish all our loanees the best in their spells away from the Town, we also say good luck to Lamine Fanne in Italy, and a heartfelt thank you and farewell to Marvelous Nakamba, who played such a key role in our promotion three years ago and brought his permanent smile to our club, even in some tough times. An amazing player and a true gentleman.

Having a trim squad also brings fantastic opportunities to our younger players as they become more involved in first-team training and edge a little closer to squad inclusion. So, a huge well done to Joe Deeney, Ronnie Henry and the youth team lads who have won their PDL Cup quarter-finals in both U17 and U18 age groups over the past few days, beating Huddersfield and Grimsby with 11 players featuring in both matches.

I would also like to touch on our Conference-winning captain's enforced retirement from playing, after suffering a fractured fibula in his third game for Southern League club Kings Langley last Saturday. What a career Ronnie's had, and it's typical of the now 42-year-old that the injury hasn't prevented him from continuing his coaching duties at The Brache and on the touchline at Blundell Park this week!

It would be remiss of me not to provide an update on Power Court, albeit very positively short this time. Last week, we completed the piling for our West Stand, ahead of schedule.

Finally, I'll close with a plea for us all to make Kenilworth Road a ground our new players quickly grow to love, while continuing to show those who have been here a while, but maybe haven't heard the Old Girl in absolutely full voice yet, that it's a place ready to make some final memories before we depart in 2028.

The atmosphere in recent matches, notably the wins against Wycombe, Orient, Stevenage, Blackpool and the draw with Lincoln, has been overwhelmingly positive and encouraging, and I know that Jack, Chris and the players have used it to inspire them, especially at some difficult moments.

They also know that it's a two-way process, in that their performance helps generate that atmosphere, and they will be doing everything to make sure that we head into a testing run of away games with another win this afternoon.

We need to come out on top of 17 cup finals between now and early May, with eight of them here. Maybe some have written us off too soon into this season, and that fighting spirit for which Luton sides are renowned is coming back to the fore and propelling us forward.

Be loud, be proud and help our boys towards our goal.

Come on you rip-roaring Hatters!

Gary

CLUB HONOURS

LEAGUE CUP
Winners 1988, Runners-up 1989

FA CUP
Runners-up 1959

FOOTBALL LEAGUE TROPHY
Winners 2008/09

SECOND DIVISION/CHAMPIONSHIP
Champions 1981/82, Runners-up 1954/55, 1973/74, Play-Off Winners 2022/23

THIRD DIVISION/LEAGUE ONE
Champions 1936/37, 2004/05, 2018/19
Runners-up 1935/36, 1969/70

FOURTH DIVISION/LEAGUE TWO
Champions 1967/68
Runners-up 2001/02, 2017/18

CONFERENCE PREMIER
Champions 2013/14

CLUB DIRECTORY

DIRECTORS & SHAREHOLDERS

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Chief Executive Officer: Gary Sweet
Directors: Paul Ballantyne, Bob Curson, Kailesh Karavadra, Rob Stringer CBE, Glyn Taylor
Shareholders: Stephen Browne, Luton Town Supporters' Trust

FOOTBALL MANAGEMENT

Manager: Jack Wilshere
Assistant Manager: Chris Powell
First Team Coaches: Kevin Foley, David Bridges & Tim Corcoran
Team Operations Manager: Kevin Dearden
Head of Goalkeeping: Kevin Pilkington
Head of Physiotherapy: Chris Philips
Head of Physical Performance: Michael Amoah
Club Ambassador & Senior Scout: Mick Harford
Head of Recruitment Analysis: Jay Socik
Player Recruitment Manager: Yousuf Sajjad
Chief Scout: Marc Tracy

CLUB OPERATIONS

Chief Finance Officer: Tom Schofield
Operations Director: James Mooney
Human Resources Director: Jenn Smith
Football Operations Manager: Kelly Francis
Safety Officer: Barney McGhee
Head of Press & Communications: Stuart Hammonds
Ticket Office Manager: Mike Hooker

VICE PRESIDENTS

Ben Banks, Emma Banks, Richard Banks, Gary Chamberlain, Ian Gazeley, Doug Knight, Ian Montone

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THE CAPTAIN

Kal NAISMITH

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road. After what had been an obviously tough week, getting that result against Blackpool was really, really important for us.

I'm incredibly proud of the lads for the way they responded. There was a real desire to bounce back, and I think everyone inside the ground could see that from the first minute.

After the defeat at Huddersfield, it hadn't been an easy few days. There were a lot of meetings, a lot of honest conversations, and plenty of hard work at The Brache. What pleased me most was that everything we spoke about, the lads went out and carried it out in the game. The passion, the fight, the willingness to do the hard parts of the game – it was all there. We were desperate to put things right, and I think you saw that.

There were some incredible performances across the pitch, but I want to single out Jordan Clark. He stepped up, scored a hugely important winner and once again showed exactly what he's all about. As a player, as a leader, and as a person, he's everything you want in a dressing room. I don't need to tell you how good he is – you already know. We're incredibly lucky to have him at this club and I love him to bits.

The message afterwards, though, was a simple one, and it's what I want to focus on today: it's just one game. We won't get too high, and we won't get too low. There's another big test this afternoon against Bradford, and that's where our full focus is now.

What we're looking for this afternoon is another strong performance. If we get our performance levels right, our attitude spot on, and we play with that same intensity and togetherness, then with you behind us, we know we can get a result. That connection with you in the stands is massive for us. I've said it hundreds of times, but it really does make a difference.

I also want to take a moment to say thank you to the lads who have moved on. Sometimes supporters don't get to see everything that goes on behind the scenes – the work on the training ground, in the gym, or the impact they had in the dressing room. The lads who have left are genuine people who gave everything for the group, and I want to wish them all the best.

At the same time, we're really excited about the boys who've come in over the past week. Cole, Davy and Sverre have settled in well this week. They're good lads, they've looked sharp in training, and we're confident they'll help us and make an impact in this final part of the season. We genuinely believe we can do something special, but it's about taking it game by game.

So welcome to the new lads, thank you for your continued support and let's look to build on the momentum with a positive result today.

Get right behind us and enjoy the game.



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"AS A PLAYER, AS A LEADER, AND AS A PERSON, CLICKER'S EVERYTHING YOU WANT IN A DRESSING ROOM. **I DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU HOW GOOD HE IS – YOU ALREADY KNOW.**

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WELCOME OUR NEWEST HATTERS!

This is one of the Hatters' newest supporters, **Ava Harris**, who is six months old.

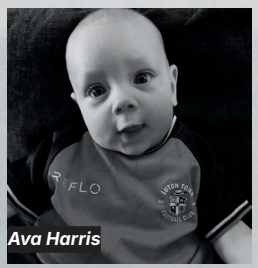
Congratulations to Tom and Jenny on joining parenthood! She is definitely a Hatter!

Aaron and Aimee Leonard became proud parents when **Willow Rose** arrived on 3rd December 2025.

Aaron and Aimee have attended all games home and away for many years, but they still found time to welcome their 7lbs 7oz bundle of joy. Many will recognise Aaron who helps the club on the turnstiles every match, so feel free to congratulate him as you walk past!

We welcome Willow Rose to the Hatters family!

Another new Hatters fan for the future is **Reu Barringer**, who came into the world in November and already has his home shirt. Massive congratulations to Steve and Amy and Reu's big brother Leo!



Ava Harris



Reu Barringer



Willow Rose



EVERY MINUTE MATTERS

We are joining clubs across the EFL this weekend to support Every Minute Matters – the life-saving partnership between Sky Bet and the British Heart Foundation (BHF) that encourages fans to learn CPR.

All 36 EFL matches have been scheduled to kick-off one minute later than originally planned to highlight a crucial message: when someone suffers a cardiac arrest, every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces their chance of survival by up to 10 per cent.

Sky Bet will also donate £1,000 to the BHF for every goal scored across the EFL during February, helping fund defibrillators in communities and vital research into heart disease.

As part of Heart Month, former Manchester City defender Micah Richards has joined cardiac arrest survivor and former Hatters captain Tom Lockyer to urge supporters to "Show Your Heart" by learning CPR using the BHF's free online RevivR tool, which takes just 15 minutes to complete.

There are more than 40,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests in the UK each year – most happening at home. Learning CPR could help save the life of someone you love.

Fans are encouraged to show their support by posting their heart-hands on social media using #ShowYourHeart and learn CPR on the BHF website.

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Jordan Clark celebrates his winner

Jordan Clark's second-half strike ensured the Hatters bounced back to winning ways with a narrow victory over Blackpool. After back-to-back away defeats the midfielder netted his eighth goal of the season to break the visitors' resistance and earn the Town a fourth victory in their last five league games at Kenilworth Road.



Cohen Bramall reaches for the ball



Teden Mengi gets things moving



Joe Johnson avoids a Blackpool tackle

A first taste of the Kenny

Midfielder Kasey Palmer reflects on a home debut victory

Dynamic Town midfielder Kasey Palmer was thrilled to get his first points in a Luton shirt following the 1-0 victory over Blackpool at Kenilworth Road.

Speaking to LTFC+ after the match against the Seasiders, Palmer revealed he anticipated a difficult time in a deeper midfield position but ultimately found enjoyment in his role.

"It was a different role, obviously I am normally a lot higher up the pitch, but I actually enjoyed it," he said.

"I thought it would be difficult with more defensive duties but because we dominated possession, a lot of the game was about getting on the ball and finding the right passes.

"Patience is important, we know that other teams are going to come here and sit back and try to play on the counter but we're comfortable on the ball and it's all about waiting to find those moments to be clinical."

Palmer, currently on loan with the Hatters from Hull City, also spoke of the challenge of playing against low-blocks and defensive phases at the Kenny this season while also praising midfield teammate Jordan Clark for his recent contributions in front of goal.

"It's tough dealing with those defensive blocks, teams know how we want to play with dominating the ball, in my first three games I think we've had the most possession in all three, but it is also about penetrating and scoring goals," Palmer explained.

"Obviously Clicker has scored today, and I think we are so close to being a top team but it's just about those little details and once we've tightened up on them, we'll get there.

"Jordan is massive for the club, I have played against him so I know what he brings, he's a goal threat and he works his socks off, it's great for him to get man of the match and score the winner."

The Jamaica international also shared how he'd settled in with the squad and gave his assessment on his start with the Hatters.

"I have enjoyed these first three games a lot," he said. "Obviously it has been weird with the results but I have enjoyed being around the team, the staff and hopefully that can continue.

"With the week we have had, this win is massive, we need to keep backing it up and keep performing because we want to keep winning and get into that top six."





HOME COMFORTS FOR CLICKER

Match-winner happy to bounce back to winning ways

Town star Jordan Clark has called on the squad to push through their away-day woes to help the play-off push following another steely performance in the 1-0 victory over Blackpool.

The midfielder discussed how he's finding life further up the pitch, the reaction from the squad to their recent away form and the challenging defensive structure imposed by the visitors.

Clicker, who now has eight strikes to his name in the league this season, indicated his love for the Hatters in another stellar display.

"It's part of playing higher up, I know I have to chip in with goals and long may it continue.

"I love this place, I love the fans because they have been great with me from day one, we have to keep going now because we have another massive home game next week.

"It was a massive win, obviously we weren't happy after the last game because we all know that our away form is letting us down, fortunately our home form has been really good and we've tried to focus on that."

When discussing the sides troubles on the road this season, Town's number 18 indicated that the squad have spoken at length with one another while also urging his teammates to learn from their mistakes.

"After Huddersfield it was important to win this game by any means necessary and I'm glad we've managed to do that.

"We're always honest and open, we know things are not good enough away from Kenilworth Road, we've watched the game back and gone through clips of certain moments and we're going to have to learn from our mistakes."

Clark, who recently celebrated, and has now surpassed, 200 appearances for the club, also spoke on the challenge that Blackpool posed and reflected on his second half finish that secured the three points.

"It was one of those games, they're obviously on a bit of a tough run themselves so we knew they would put a lot of players behind the ball.

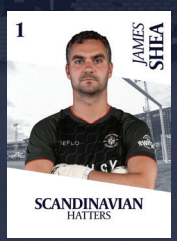
"It was all about being persistent with putting the ball in behind their defence and trying to make opportunities, fortunately a cross came in and it wasn't the best of clearances and I loved seeing the ball hit the back of the net."

> *"I LOVE THIS PLACE, I LOVE THE FANS BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN GREAT WITH ME FROM DAY ONE.*

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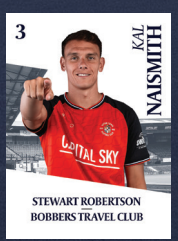
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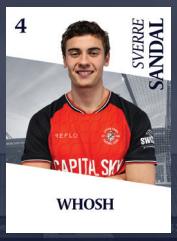




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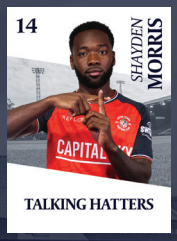
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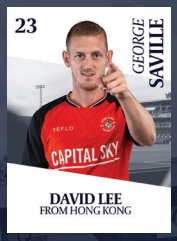


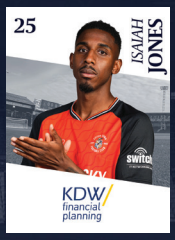








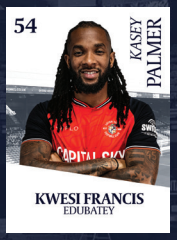






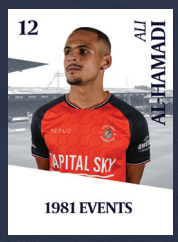




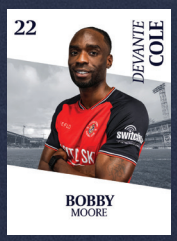


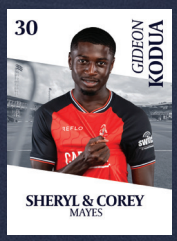
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SPONSORSHIP & HOSPITALITY

At our last home game against Blackpool last week, match-winner Jordan Clark was named man-of-the-match and we also had the pleasure of welcoming three mascots to the League One fixture against the Tangerines.

Our guests in the Eric Morecambe Lounge also had the pleasure of hearing from Town duo Elijah Adebayo and Christian Chigozie before the game, with the pair popping in to meet and greet guests, signing autographs, posing for photos and answering supporters' questions.

Josh Keeley then returned to do the honours post-match to discuss the 1-0 win over the Seasiders which pushed us back up to seventh in the table.

This is just one of the many benefits to matchday hospitality at Kenilworth Road, so if you're interested in becoming a match or matchball sponsor or wish to catch the Hatters in action in style, you're just one phone call or email away!

With the team in great form here at Kenilworth Road, make sure you get in touch with our team to book your place at one of our big matches here in the final few months of the season.

There is availability for our games in February and March so please get in touch with us by calling 01582 411622 or emailing commercial@lutontown.co.uk.

Finally, a big hello to our guests from Teng Tools who are our match sponsors. We hope you have a wonderful afternoon with us.









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BRADFORD CITY

The Bantams are in town as they make the trip down from Yorkshire to Kenilworth Road.

Graham Alexander's side have had an excellent season so far and currently sit in fifth place in the table.

Last campaign saw Bradford seal promotion in the most dramatic fashion after a last-minute winner on the final day of the season saw them sneak the last promotion spot back up to the third tier.

The Bantams got off to a flying start this term and they had only lost one league game by November – a 3-1 defeat to Doncaster.

In the New Year things have taken a slight turn in form and results have dropped as losses to Mansfield, Huddersfield, Cardiff and Lincoln have seen Bradford move down to fifth place.

However, last time out City picked up an important home win, a 1-0 victory over Doncaster at Valley Parade. A Tyreik Wright screamer was enough for the three points.

Chances are that only a few Bradford fans in the Oak Road end have seen their side win at Kenilworth Road – their last victory came back in 1968.

Since then, the Town have won five and drawn three of the following eight meetings between the two sides in Bedfordshire. Two of the last three games here have seen the Hatters win 4-0.

Two goals from Elliot Lee and one each from James Justin and Harry Cornick earned the Town victory when the Bantams were last in these parts in November 2018.

A warm welcome to Kenilworth Road to all those associated with Bradford City.

BRADFORD CITY AT-A-GLANCE

FOUNDED: 1903

NICKNAME: The Bantams

GROUND: Valley Parade

MAJOR HONOURS: FA Cup winners 1911, Second Division champions 1907/08, Third Division champions 1928/29, 1984/85

RIVALS: Huddersfield and Leeds

LAST TIME AT THE KENNY: Town 4-0 Bradford 27/11/18

S1 Luton v Bradford.indd 25 05/02/2026 13:57



BRADFORD CITY

THE AWAY END

The Boss

GRAHAM ALEXANDER Former Town defender who guided the Bantams to promotion last term. Played almost 1,000 senior games and has now managed close to 600 more with spells in charge of Fleetwood, Scunthorpe, Salford, Milton Keynes and Bradford.

Goalkeeper

SAM WALKER Experienced goalkeeper with over 100 appearances for City. Featured in every league game so far this season.

Defenders

CURTIS TILT Jamaican defender who began his career in non-league for the likes of Halesowen, Telford, Hednesford and Wrexham before making a career for himself in the EFL.

ADEN BALDWIN Another defender who began his career in non-league and built his way up. Signed for the Bantams in 2024 and has been a regular in the team ever since.

MATTHEW PENNINGTON 31-year-old centre-back with a wealth of experience across the EFL for the likes of Coventry, Walsall, Ipswich, Hull, Shrewsbury and Blackpool.

IBOU TOURAY Made his name at Salford and Stockport where his impressive performances got him a move to Valley Parade last summer.

JOE WRIGHT Signed last summer from Scottish side Kilmarnock and has made 24 appearances since. Scored a late winner against Wigan on Boxing Day.

Midfielders

MAX POWER Veteran midfielder mainly in League One for the likes of Sunderland and Wigan. Left AGF Aarhus in the summer to join Bradford.

JENSON METCALFE 21-year-old midfielder who came through the ranks at Everton and spent some time on loan at Chesterfield before making the permanent switch to Bradford.

JOSH NEUFVILLE Graduated from the Hatters academy before lighting up League Two last season with AFC Wimbledon, earning himself a move to Bradford where he has continued to impress.

GEORGE LAPSLIE Signed for Bradford in January 2025 and has made 26 appearances since then, scoring six goals.

TYREIK WRIGHT Came through the Aston Villa academy and spent time out on loan with several clubs before making the switch to Bradford. Scored the winner for the Bantams last time out against Doncaster.

Forwards

STEPHEN HUMPHRYS Experienced EFL striker mainly in the third tier. Scored in the reverse fixture of this game, one of four League One goals he has bagged this season.

KAYDEN JACKSON Former Accrington, Ipswich and Derby man who left Pride Park this January and has made the permanent move to Valley Parade.

BOBBY POINTON A standout player for the Bantams so far this campaign and a product of the club's academy. Scored seven league goals so far, including one against us earlier in the campaign.

PAUL MULLIN Another January addition for Graham Alexander's side. Spent the first half of this season on loan at Wigan from Wrexham.

S1 Luton v Bradford.indd 26 05/02/2026 13:57

HATTERS *versus* BANTAMS

Historic meetings between the clubs down the years

DECEMBER 1969

SUPERMAC'S HAT-TRICK

The Town go into this game off the back of a humiliating defeat at non-league Hillingdon in their previous outing and bounce back in style to beat the Bantams 5-0 at Kenilworth Road. City, the last team to beat the Hatters on home soil some 20 months before, stood no chance against a rampant Town side with Malcolm Macdonald completing his hat-trick from the penalty spot.

JANUARY 2004

FORBESY AT THE DOUBLE

The Hatters win at Valley Parade for the first time in their history in this FA Cup third round tie with two goals from Adrian Forbes putting the Town in the driving seat. Dean Windass is fouled leaving Andy Gray to hit home a late penalty to bring the hosts back into it but Forbes is then given a chance for his hat-trick after Steve Howard is brought down, but his spot kick is saved.

OCTOBER 2004

BRKOVIC BICYCLE BRILLIANCE ▼

With the Town riding high in League One, Ahmet Brkovic opens the scoring with a spectacular bicycle-kick after good approach play by Chris Coyne and Steve Howard. The Hatters go two up when Howard finishes off a flowing move, and they add a third four minutes later when Paul Underwood takes a Brkovic pass and slams home to complete the first half scoring. Brkovic then added the fourth after seizing on a rebound from the City keeper and coolly slotting home to earn a rousing home win.



Paul Underwood celebrates making it 3-0



Elliot Lee: on target twice in 2018

JANUARY 2009

LAST-MINUTE DRAMA

The Hatters were feeling exasperated after a six-goal thriller at Kenilworth Road saw Bradford score a controversial penalty deep into stoppage time in a breathless 3-3 draw. The Town led 2-0 thanks to goals from Asa Hall and Sunday-Akanni Wasiu but former Hatter Paul McLaren and Dean Furman hit back to level for the Bantams. The Town think they had won it when Hall netted into the final minute but the visitors converted from the spot in added time to earn a point.

NOVEMBER 2018

ANOTHER 4-0! ▲

The Hatters moved up to third in League One and within two points of an automatic spot with an exhilarating 4-0 win at Kenilworth Road. Elliot Lee stretched his lead at the top of the goal scoring table with a brace taking him to double figures for the season while James Justin was able to convert the Hatters' first after Harry Cornick's initial shot was saved. Cornick then rubbed salt into the wounds late on with the fourth to end the Bantams' three game unbeaten run.

S1 Luton v Bradford.indd 27 05/02/2026 13:57



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What a WINTER WINDOW!

Ins and outs a plenty as Jack shapes his squad for the run-in



On Monday night the transfer window closed, drawing to a busy end to business at Kenilworth Road.

Since New Year's Day the squad has seen the addition of five new faces. **Emilio Lawrence** was first to join on loan from Manchester City before **Kasey Palmer** signed on loan from Hull before our trip to Plymouth.

Last Saturday saw us complete the permanent transfer of Port Vale striker **Devante Cole** and, in the final hours of the window, two new men put pen to paper at Kenilworth Road.

Defensive midfielder **Sverre Sandal** was first announced on a permanent deal before left-sided attacking midfielder **Davy van den Berg** joined on loan to complete the set. You can read more about our three newest arrivals on the next few pages.

On the way out, no less than 11 players left Kenilworth Road to seek first team football away from Bedfordshire.

One player with a close connection to the club left on a permanent basis. **Marvelous Nakamba** will be forever remembered for helping us win promotion to the Premier League and the Zimbabwe captain leaves for Sheffield Wednesday, where he joins striker **Jerry Yates**, who has signed for the Owls on loan.

Also departing is midfielder **Lamine Fanne** who has swapped Luton for Venice in a permanent deal, while two attackers left for Portsmouth, with **Milli Alli** and **Jacob Brown** heading to Fratton Park on loan for the remainder of the campaign.

Another player heading for the Championship is defender **Christ Makosso**, who has joined Oxford on loan while striker **Lasse Nordås** agreed to join Heerenveen, of the Dutch top-flight, on loan.

Three players will continue to play in League One for the remainder of this season with **Reuell Walters** joining Wigan, **Zack Nelson** heading to AFC Wimbledon and **Ethon Archer** signing for Port Vale.



Thanks for the memories, Marv!



Finally, the 11th senior first team player to depart is striker **Joe Gbodé**, who – having played already for the Hatters and Gillingham this term – signed for Woking in the National League until the end of the season.

We wish every player the best of success for the remainder of this season and to those who leave permanently, a huge thank you for being part of the Luton Town story.

S1 Luton v Bradford.indd 29 05/02/2026 13:57

SETTLING INTO NEW SURROUNDINGS

Devante Cole is ready to go!

New striker Devante Cole is ready to fire the Town to promotion after joining from Port Vale.

Having twice scored the goals that helped Barnsley reach the play-offs in successive seasons at this level in the past, the 30-year-old is looking forward to playing another successful end to the campaign.

"It's been a long week, but I'm very happy to get it over the line," said Cole.

"Since I first became aware of the interest, I wanted to be a Luton player and I'm glad it's finally at this point.

"I've been to Kenilworth Road a few times and it's always a hard place for an opposition team to play, but I'm looking forward to getting out there with the fans behind me now.

"It always helps you settle in quickly at a new club when there are familiar faces, and I know Mads very well from my time at Barnsley and Kal from when we were at Wigan together, so I'm sure all the lads will be good.

"I can't wait to get going now."

DEVANTE'S STORY

The striker joined Manchester City as a seven-year-old, quickly becoming a regular scorer for City's youth teams under Patrick Vieira.

His first taste of senior football came with a loan at Barnsley in 2014/15, where he scored seven times in 23 appearances.

Cole left Manchester in 2015, joining our visitors today, Bradford, but after a short spell with the Bantams he signed for Fleetwood.

After three seasons at Highbury, where he hit 22 goals in 94 games, he made the move to Wigan but could not hold down a regular place in the side.

Spells at Burton, Doncaster and Motherwell followed – scoring 11 times in the Scottish top-flight in 27 games – before he put pen to paper on a deal at Barnsley.

It was at Oakwell where he shot to prominence, scoring 33 times in two seasons in League One to help the Tykes reach the play-offs two years in a row. At the beginning of last season Cole then joined West Brom but then signed for Port Vale in the summer where the striker hit the ground running scoring and setting another up on his debut.

A further seven goals followed – including Vale's second goal at Kenilworth Road before Christmas.



TO THE NEXT CHAPTER

"Everybody knows Luton" says the Town's new man Sverre Sandal





His smile is infectious. His love for Luton is already obvious.

Sverre Sandal is a Hatter, and he can't wait to get start and help Jack Wilshere's side achieve promotion this season.

"Ever since I heard about the interest I've been looking forward to coming over, signing for Luton Town and giving my all," said the 22-year-old who signs permanently from FKUM, the Norwegian top-flight outfit.

"Everyone in Norway knows Luton's story, and when I look at my former club, we've had a similar rise to the top division unexpectedly.

"I understand it's been a tough two years, but it seems like we are in the beginning of rebuilding and it's something I want to be a part of.

"I've seen that the fans are passionate and from what I've heard, Luton is a hard-working town, which is something that suits me well.

"I like to bring the game up the field, play forwards, win my duels, work hard and help the team. I'm so eager to prove myself here and can't wait to start training."

SVERRE'S STORY

Born to an English mother and Norwegian father, Sverre started his career in the youth system at Hauketo, a hot-bed of Norwegian football.

In his early teens he signed for fourth-tier club Nordstrand, and after breaking into the first-team squad as an 18-year-old, he was quickly signed by KFUM, but immediately loaned back to Nordstrand for the 2022 season, making 20 appearances.

In his first season with KFUM on a full-time basis, he helped the Kåffa to promotion to the top-flight for the first time in their history, and has made 26 appearances in both of the 30-game Eliteserien campaigns the Ekeberg club have competed in.

Sverre's form in his maiden top-flight campaign when they finished eighth saw him dubbed the 'Ekeberg Yaya Toure' by the media.

Last term he netted three times and provided four assists as KFUM finished 12th, and he leaves the club with 108 appearances and 10 goals to his name in all competitions over the past three seasons.

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GOOD ENERGY, GOOD ATTITUDE!

Dutchman Davy van den Berg is down to work hard!



Attacking midfielder Davy van den Berg is hoping some Jack Wilshere magic can rub off on the Town's new arrival.

The 25-year-old, who signed from Utrecht on a permanent basis, grew up watching the former Arsenal man do his thing in the Premier League.

And having put pen to paper, van den Berg, can't wait to get going on what is his first taste of football outside of the Netherlands.

"I'm very excited, it's the first time playing abroad for me. Let's see what Luton and England can give to me and what I can give back to them," said the graduate of the PSV Eindhoven academy.

"I always like to be creative and find solutions for the team and I like to think I have a good energy and attitude.

"Of course I remember Luton playing in the Premier League and the Championship, and hopefully we can make the step back up as soon as possible.

"And I certainly think I can learn a lot from the manager, especially as a midfield player, and the way he played."

DAVY'S STORY

Born in Uden, in the north-east of the Netherlands, Davy spent a decade in the PSV academy before leaving to join Utrecht, aged 18.

Capped 12 times by the Netherlands between under-15 and under-19 age groups, he penned a two-year deal and was a regular in the Jong Utrecht side in the Dutch second tier also making his first-team debut in August 2021 in an Eredivisie game against Feyenoord.

He spent the second half of the 2021/22 season on loan with Roda before joining Zwolle on a permanent transfer in the summer of 2022, helping them win promotion from the second tier.

After making 99 appearances, in which he scored 12 goals and assisted another dozen, Utrecht then re-signed the midfielder last summer.

He made six appearances this season in the Eredivisie and another four in the Europa League, with his final outing coming in last week's 4-2 defeat at Celtic in Glasgow.

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S1 Luton v Bradford.indd 34 05/02/2026 13:58

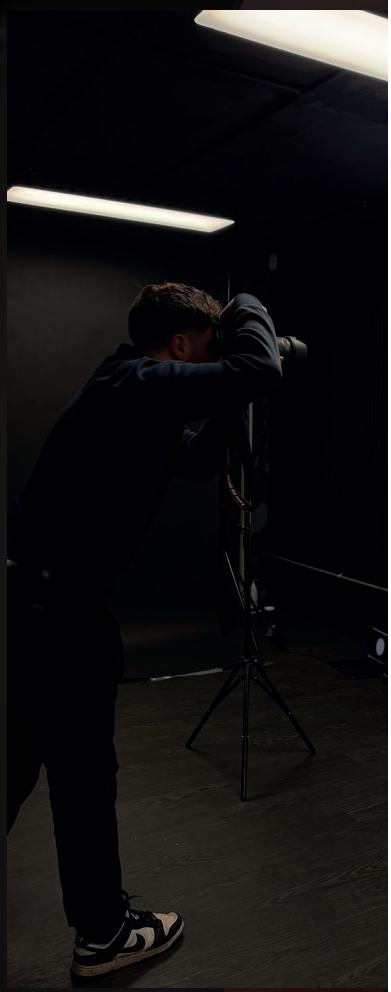

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S2 Luton v Bradford.indd 37 05/02/2026 13:59



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THE VIEW FROM THE PRESS BOX

*The **Luton News** sports editor reflects on the closure of the winter transfer window*

Ah, transfer deadline day, one of the most hectic days in the year for any sports journalist, and Monday was certainly no different for anyone covering the comings and goings at Kenilworth Road.

Having done some business already during January, bringing in Emilio Lawrence and Kasey Palmer on loan deals from Manchester City and Hull City respectively, plus the weekend addition of Devante Cole, Town boss Jack Wilshere had intimated after beating Blackpool last Saturday, that he intended to be busy in the final 24 hours.

That then led to a day where the Hatters were linked with anyone and everyone who could play in midfield it appeared, with players from north of the border reportedly on Town's wishlist, while this reporter was soon trawling through the internet to find out anything possible on some potential targets from further afield as the rumour mill continued to spit out names on an almost hourly basis.

Thankfully the latter two proved more worthwhile research, as with the introduction of the deal sheet for League One clubs this season, then Luton were able to snap up Sverre Sandal from Norwegian side KFUM first, which was swiftly followed by another announcement, Utrecht's Davy van den Berg also arriving.

Most if not all who follow the Hatters couldn't readily admit with a straight face that they had heard of them before, but the pair certainly have pedigree. Van den Berg has been playing in the Europa League and Eredivisie in recent years, with Sandal racking up over 50 appearances in Norway's top tier too, so here's hoping they can now adapt to English football quickly and breathe life into Luton's top six ambitions.

The window was mainly about Town clearing their decks too, with 11 leaving, as they sent out a number of players on loan: Jacob Brown heading to Portsmouth and Reuell Walters went to Blackpool, the duo following a number who had already departed, including Christ Makosso and Lamine Fanne at the weekend.

One player who will sadly no longer pull on the orange shirt again was Marvelous Nakamba, who had his contract ended by mutual consent to sign for Sheffield Wednesday.

Although he only played 61 times in total, his impact in Luton going on to have a season in the Premier League can't be understated.

Joining on loan in January 2024, the Zimbabwe international's performances were huge in the Hatters not only reaching the play-offs, but also winning them, holding his nerve in front of the massed ranks of Town fans at Wembley in that now infamous shootout.

Injuries sadly robbed him of going on to feature as much as he would have wanted in the seasons after, but the softly spoken midfielder, who was always happy to talk no matter the result, certainly left his mark at Kenilworth Road.



Sverre Sandal joins the Town from KFUM in Norway

S2 Luton v Bradford.indd 39 05/02/2026 13:59

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Wearing HISTORY

1935/36 HOME

Today we feature a shirt from 90 years ago. A shirt that was used before clubs like Colchester United (1937), Salford City (1940) and Burton Albion (1950) were even formed, and when the league divisions had a split based on geographical location.

The design was simple: white long-sleeved shirt with a deep black V-neck and collar and black cuffs on the end of the long sleeves. We accompanied the shirt with black shorts and black and white socks. No sponsors in those days, nor where numbers on the back of shirts mandatory. This wasn't enforced until the 1939/40 season, when the Football League made them mandatory.

The large badge on the left breast of the shirt was stitched on and featured the design of a boater hat and "LTFC" underneath. It's just simple and brilliant. It adds even more romanticism to this shirt in the fact that everything is stitched and handmade. Incredible.



Jock Finlayson

The 1935/36 season saw the Hatters finish second in the Division Three (South) but unfortunately did not get promoted to Division Two until the following season after winning the league.

We also reached the fourth round of the FA Cup, losing out to Manchester City 2-1 in muddy, boggy conditions in Manchester. I urge you to look at the pictures on Hatters Heritage, it's a game that certainly wouldn't have been deemed as playable by today's pitch standards!

If you know your Hatters History, you will know that this season featured a game for the history books, a game that is still referenced even today.

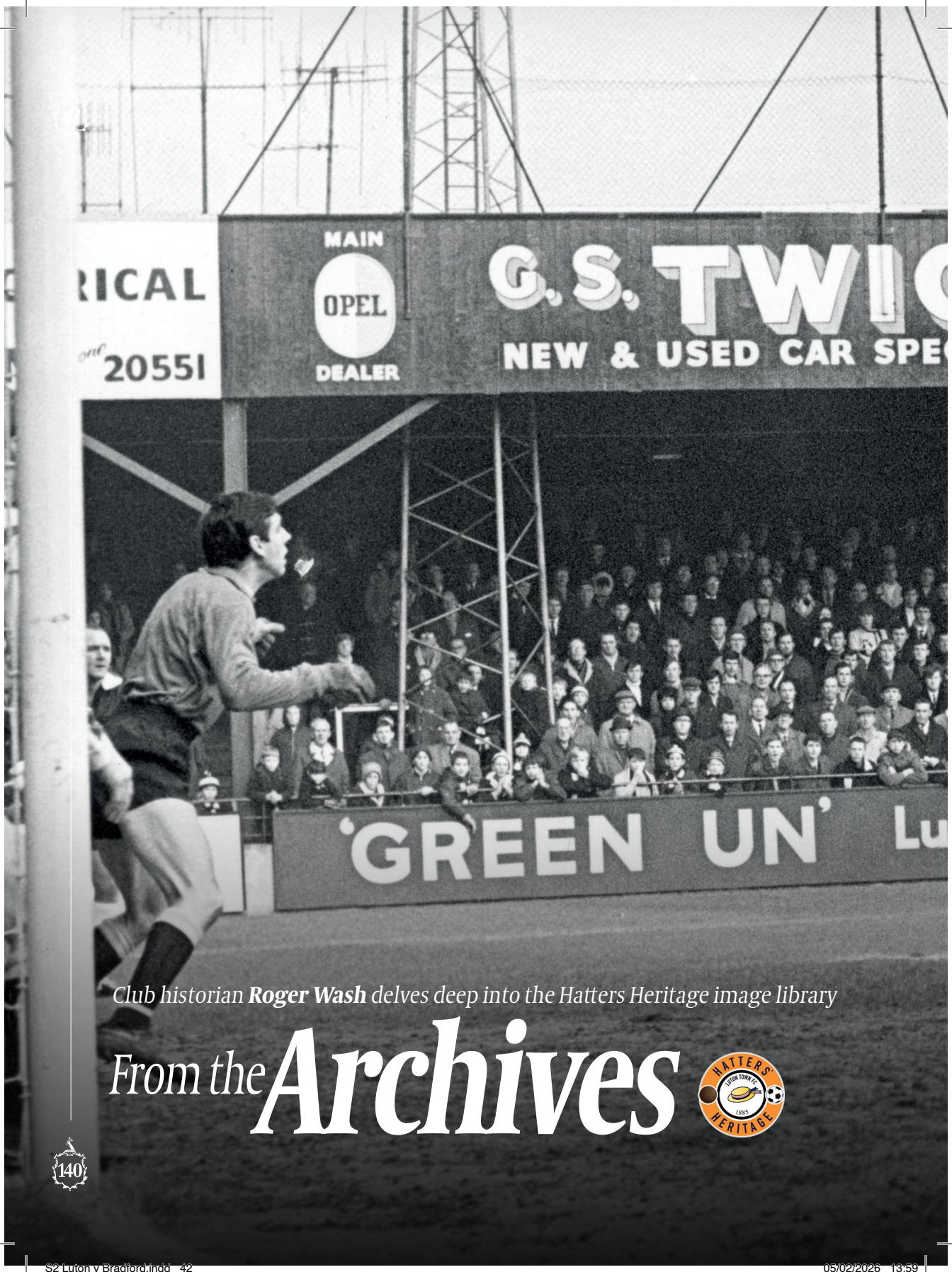
The date was the 13th April 1936 and the opposition, Bristol Rovers. 14,296 fans witnessed history in the making, a 12-0 win for the Hatters with Joe Payne grabbing 10 goals which is still a record for a player in a league game. Fred Roberts and George Martin were the other goalscorers, not that they ever get a mention thanks to Payne's incredible performance!

If any of our current players fancy trying to beat that record, today's game would be a good opportunity to do so...!



Joe Payne nets again as the Town beat Bristol Rovers 12-0

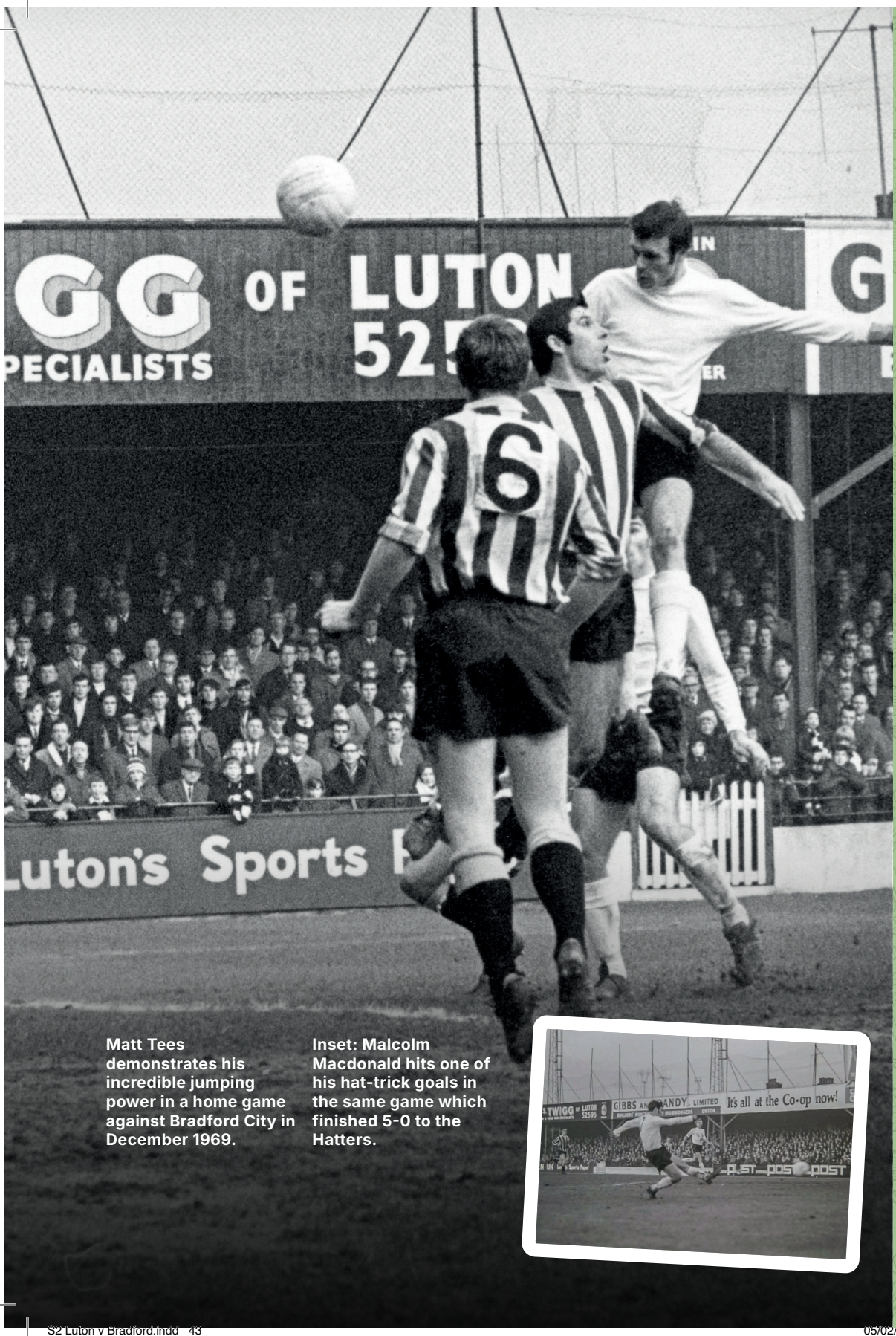
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Club historian ***Roger Wash*** *delves deep into the Hatters Heritage image library*

From the Archives

S2 Luton v Bradford.indd 42 05/02/2026 13:59



Matt Tees demonstrates his incredible jumping power in a home game against Bradford City in December 1969.

Inset: Malcolm Macdonald hits one of his hat-trick goals in the same game which finished 5-0 to the Hatters.

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We look back on some of the most iconic matches played on this day in our history

ON THIS DAY

7th February



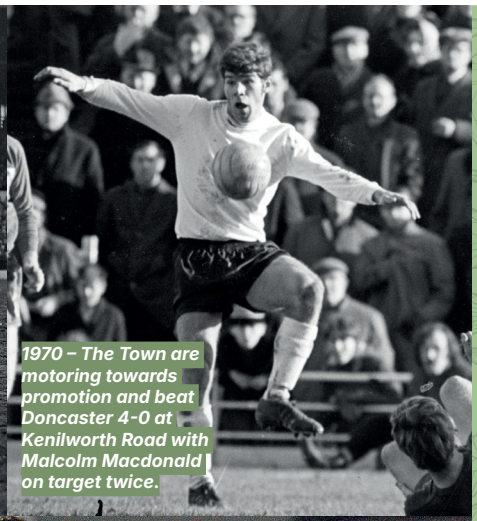
2017 – The Town move into the semi-finals of the Checkatrade Trophy with a 5-2 win over Yeovil at Kenilworth Road.



1981 – Paul Price, Ricky Hill and David Moss are on target as the Hatters beat Blackburn 3-1 at Kenilworth Road.



1959 – Allan Brown nets a hat-trick as the Hatters storm to a 6-2 win over Burnley in the top flight in front of 15,753 at Kenilworth Road.



1970 – The Town are motoring towards promotion and beat Doncaster 4-0 at Kenilworth Road with Malcolm Macdonald on target twice.



2023 – Not one to remember this: the Town crash out of the FA Cup losing 3-0 at Grimsby in a fourth round replay.



2012 – Jake Howells and Stuart Fleetwood are on target as the Hatters win 2-1 at Kidderminster in the FA Trophy.



2004 – Enoch Showunmi is the hero as the striker earns the Hatters earn a 1-0 win over Colchester.

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Scoring the only goal in the FA Cup quarter-final replay against Blackpool

As we celebrate 140 years of football, Hatters Heritage's ***Will Foster*** *looks back at some of the people who form part of our rich history with a story to tell.*

TOP HATTERS

Allan Brown – 'Britain's unluckiest footballer' Part Two

Of all the teams that the Hatters could have faced in the FA Cup quarter-final in 1959, it was Allan Brown's old side, Blackpool.

In the first game at Bloomfield Road, Ray Charnley scored at the death for the Seasiders to level the game at 1-1. The replay at Kenilworth Road would become one of the club's most famous days, with a record crowd of 30,069 crammed into the old ground on a Wednesday afternoon to see if Luton could reach the FA Cup semi-finals for the first time.

The game was level until the 74th minute, when Brown himself took on an excellent pass from George Cummins and surged towards goal. In a remarkable near repeating of history, Blackpool goalkeeper George Farm dived at the forward's feet just as Arsenal's Jack Kelsey had done in 1953 when Brown broke his leg. But if Brown suffered any mental scars from that day, he didn't show it, prodding the ball past his ex-teammate and into the net for what would be the winning goal.

"One man sat motionless, speechless amid the tumult and the shouting in the Luton dressing room as the champagne signalled their victory...he was Allan Brown, the man who had beaten his old club Blackpool... the man who had to beat a nightmare that has haunted him for six years to do it,"wrote Bob Pennington in his match report.

It would perhaps prove to be the high point of Brown's time at Luton. The final against Nottingham Forest, reached after defeating Norwich in the semi-final, was a disappointment for all concerned. Brown had strong feelings on the subject.

"We were not keyed up enough to win," he would recall in a 1967 interview. "I felt lethargic, and this was wrong. I knew the rest of the lads were the same."

> *"ONE MAN SAT MOTIONLESS, SPEECHLESS AMID THE TUMULT AND THE SHOUTING IN THE LUTON DRESSING ROOM AS THE CHAMPAGNE SIGNALLED THEIR VICTORY...HE WAS ALLAN BROWN, THE MAN WHO HAD BEATEN HIS OLD CLUB BLACKPOOL.*

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Even more painfully, he had to contend with missing a chance that may have turned the game. “We were losing 2-1 when it happened. Billy Bingham broke on the wing and crossed the ball. I threw myself at it but it went wide. If it had gone in we would have won, for all the lads would have then pulled out something extra.”

Brown was now part of an aging side at Kenilworth Road and would eventually leave for Portsmouth in 1961. But his time in Bedfordshire was not done by a long chalk.

With the club somehow floundering in the bottom reaches of the Fourth Division in November of 1966 they turned to Brown, who had been in charge at Wigan, to become the new manager.

These were desperate times. In his seventh game in charge they were beaten 8-1 at bottom side Lincoln and would sink to 23rd in football’s bottom tier. But in Brown they’d found a manager who would slowly but surely turn the tide.

Helped by the emergence of Bruce Rioch and Alan Slough, he guided the team to 17th in his first season and then embarked on one of the most memorable campaigns in the club’s history as Town romped away with the Fourth Division title in 1967/68.

The club also now had a wealthy owner in the form of Tony Hunt of the V&G insurance group who, along with Reggie Burr, had provided Brown with sizeable funds to start the Hatters’ revival back up the leagues. The money was spent wisely, and as soon as promotion was secured to the Third Division plans began for the next steps up the ladder. And in Brown, it was assumed they had the manager who would do so.

But privately Hunt and Burr saw Allan as a lower division boss, one who lacked the skills to match their fierce ambition. Brown however had no doubts in his ability and had set his sights on a First Division post as soon as possible. To that end, he would interview for the job at top-flight Leicester in December of 1968, ultimately missing out to Frank O’Farrell.



Brown in 1968 as manager

The Luton board acted quickly. They declared themselves unhappy at what they perceived to be a lack of loyalty, and Tony Hunt approached the out of work Alec Stock as a replacement. Brown was asked to resign, which he did, surprising the football world and fans alike. The ensuing furore at the ground left no-one looking in a good light, least of all when Brown leaned out of his office window to address the gathering press corps. “If you are waiting here for me I have nothing to say,” he told them.

It was a sad and acrimonious end to a successful career as both a player and manager at Kenilworth Road. He would go on to manage Torquay, Nottingham Forest and Blackpool among others.

But time heals all ills, and he was a popular guest at celebrations in 1999 to mark 40 years since the run to the FA Cup final.

Brown passed away in 2011 at the age of 84. Club chairman at the time Nick Owen led the tributes. “He scored the first goal I ever saw in professional football.

“Then, a few years later as manager, he became a pivotal figure in our resurrection. So many terrific memories – thank you, Allan Brown.”



Pictured with the directors in happier times. Tony Hunt is on the far left, seated

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LTFC academy

With Wayne Polson
Academy Safeguarding Manger





The Under-18s work things out in the classroom during their trip to partners Thameslink earlier this season

BUILDING A STRONG SAFEGUARDING CULTURE

Across all phases, we've worked hard to ensure safeguarding remains a shared responsibility.

Staff engagement this season has been excellent, with coaches and support teams embracing updated guidance, refresher training, and consistent processes. This collective approach continues to strengthen the safe culture we are committed to maintaining.

IMPROVEMENTS TO REPORTING & OVERSIGHT

We've enhanced our digital reporting systems, allowing concerns to be recorded and responded to more efficiently. This has improved communication between safeguarding, education, medical, and coaching staff – ensuring timely decisions and joined-up support for players whenever required. These systems give us clearer oversight and better continuity across all cases.

EDUCATION, WELLBEING & PLAYER EMPOWERMENT

Player education remains a core part of our safeguarding provision. This season we've delivered focused sessions on:

Online safety

- Respectful behaviour and relationships
- Emotional wellbeing
- Recognising early signs of concern

These workshops help our young players build confidence, understand risks, and make informed choices. We've had strong engagement across the board, and feedback from the players has been extremely positive.

VISIBILITY ACROSS THE ACADEMY

A key part of my role is ensuring players know where to turn if they need support.

Throughout the season, I've maintained regular presence across training sessions, matchdays, and daily Academy activity. These informal check-ins often provide valuable insights and encourage players to speak openly about any concerns. Being visible and approachable remains one of our most effective safeguarding tools.

PARTNERSHIPS & BEST PRACTICE

We continue to work closely with football authorities and local safeguarding partners to ensure our policies and practices remain aligned with national expectations. These relationships help us stay ahead of emerging trends and maintain a proactive approach to safeguarding throughout the club.

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LOOKING AHEAD

The remainder of the season will focus on:

- Updating Academy safeguarding policies
- Delivering staff CPD and new training modules
- Reviewing induction materials for the next player intake
- Strengthening our wellbeing support pathways

Safeguarding is an ongoing commitment, and we remain focused on continuous improvement throughout every area of our programme.

FINAL WORD

Thank you to our players, parents, staff, and the wider Luton Town community for your continued support. Together, we're building an Academy environment where every young person feels safe, valued, and able to develop both as a player and as a person.

Enjoy the game – and come on you Hatters!

BARNES BEAUTY EARNS TOWN POINT

A Rufus Barnes wonder-strike rescued a point for the Hatters as our Under-18s battled back to draw 2-2 with Bromley at The Brache last weekend.

It was a fast start for Town as prolific striker Dawid Gawel opened the scoring inside 10 minutes, rising highest from a superbly delivered corner to power his header beyond the opposition goalkeeper.

The visitors struggled to get into the game with chances coming at a premium, though a fine save from stopper Charlie Booth helped keep the young side ahead as he pushed an effort past the post in the 19th minute.

Unfortunately, despite the Hatters dominating possession and keeping the Bromley threat to a minimum, the lead could not be preserved until the break and the away side levelled with just three minutes of the first half to play as a Bromley strike was judged to have crossed the line by the officials.

Following the goal, Bromley continued to push deep into injury time and could have taken the lead had it not been for another heroic save from Booth, almost replicating his first by getting down again to deny the visitors with another save just seconds from the half time whistle.

The second half started much like the first, with Town pressing well and taking control of the game without managing to make the most of the ball. It proved costly as Bromley took a late lead, the attacker getting away from the Town defence before firing a superb effort into the top corner from the edge of the box.

All hope seemed lost for the Hatters until a lofted ball from substitute Lloyd Asamoah-Junior into the visitors' penalty area managed to find Excel Ed-Okungbowa, the striker touching the ball to Barnes who sent his effort into the top corner and secured a point for the Hatters late into the game.

Town: Booth, Kwame Anson, Evans, Barnes, Roberts-Edema (Asamoah Junior), Passley-James, Isufi (Lesser), El Gourja (Knote-Reed), Frimpong-Kwakye (Ed-Okungbowa), Gawel, Takawira. Sub not used: Flynn

Report by: Liam Wilmot

- A solitary goal from Benny Benagr fired the Town into the semi-final of the PDL Cup on Tuesday night at Grimsby. The Hatters, who lifted the trophy last year, will take on Swansea in the last four – the team they beat in the final last season.

U18 FIXTURES

AUGUST
Sat 8 Plymouth Argyle W 5-1
Tue 12 Leyton Orient W 6-4
Sat 16 PDLC Oxford Utd W 3-0
Sat 23 Cheltenham W 4-2
Sat 30 Forest Green L 0-3

SEPTEMBER
Sat 6 Exeter City W 4-0
Sat 13 Oxford Utd W 4-1
Sat 20 Newport County W 3-0
Sat 27 Swindon W 7-0

OCTOBER
Sat 11 Portsmouth D 1-1
Sat 29 Barnet (FAYC) D 1-1*

NOVEMBER
Sat 8 Bristol Rovers W 6-1
Sat 15 Wycombe L 1-2
Sat 22 PDLC Watford W 4-1

DECEMBER
Sat 6 Milton Keynes W 4-0
Sat 13 Cambridge Utd L 3-6
Sat 20 Northampton L 0-2

JANUARY
Sat 3 Stevenage D 3-3
Sat 10 Sutton United W 3-1
Sat 17 AFC Wimbledon L 0-4
Sat 24 Barnet P-P
Sat 31 Bromley D 2-2

FEBRUARY
Sat 7 Cambridge United 11am
Sat 14 Gillingham 10:30am
Sat 21 Leyton Orient 11am
Sat 28 Wycombe 10:30am

MARCH
Sat 7 Milton Keynes 11am
Sat 14 Northampton 10:30am
Sat 21 Stevenage 10:30am
Sat 28 Gillingham 10:30am

APRIL
Sat 11 Sutton United 10:30am
Sat 18 AFC Wimbledon 10:30am
Sat 25 Barnet 10:30am

MAY
Sat 2 Bromley 11am

U21 FIXTURES

AUGUST
Tue 26 Exeter City L 0-1

OCTOBER
Tue 21 Brentford L 1-6
Wed 29 Dunstable (BSC) W 5-0

NOVEMBER
Tue 18 West Brom L 1-5

DECEMBER
Wed 3 Exeter City W 2-1
Sun 14 Brentford L 1-2
Mon 22 West Brom L 3-4

JANUARY
Tue 27 Leighton Town (BSC) L 1-3

Bold denotes home fixture
**lost 6-5 on penalties*
***match at Enfield Town FC*

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Nassim El Gourja

YOUR NAME?
Nassim El Gourja

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
Morocco

WHAT POSITIONS DO YOU PLAY? Central attacking midfield, central midfield, left or right wing or striker

WHEN DID YOU JOIN THE ACADEMY? At under-8s

WHO WAS YOUR FOOTBALL HERO GROWING UP?
Mesut Özil

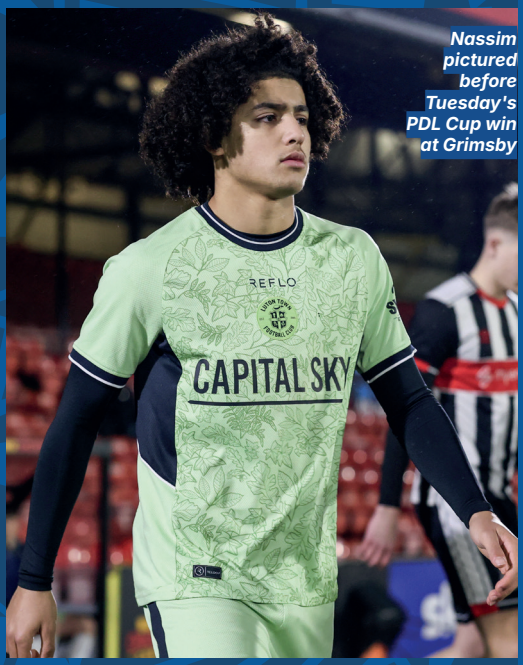
GO-TO BOOTS RIGHT NOW? Nike Mercurials

FIRST TIME YOU KICKED A BALL? No idea!

BIGGEST LESSON FOOTBALL'S TAUGHT YOU? Talent if nothing without hard work







Nassim pictured before Tuesday's PDL Cup win at Grimsby

TEAMMATE MOST LIKELY TO BE A MANAGER? Lucas Thomas

MOMENT YOU'LL NEVER FORGET? The final of the Under-8s tour against Manchester City

BEST BIT ABOUT BEING AT LUTON? Its work in the community

ONE THING YOU'RE WORKING ON? Score more goals

PRE-MATCH ROUTINE OR SUPERSTITIONS? Don't have any

GO-TO CHEAT MEAL? Nandos

IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER? Football coach

PERSON YOU'D SWAP PLACES WITH FOR A DAY? Fin Evans!

THREE WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOURSELF? Smart, talkative, chill

BIGGEST FOOTBALL DREAM? To make it professionally and play in the Premier League

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LUTON TOWN FC COMMUNITY TRUST

Supporting local people facing barriers to employment, training and education



The Supporting Luton into Employment project, funded by the Premier League and PFA Players' Fund, and Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation (BLCF), brings together local organisations to support adults facing barriers to employment, training, and education.

It provides practical training, free accredited qualifications, one-to-one support, and workplace experiences, helping participants build skills, confidence, and pathways into sustainable employment.

Aligned with the Luton 2040 vision of a healthy, fair and sustainable town where everyone can thrive and no-one has to live in poverty, the project addresses local employment challenges and opportunities.

Since its launch in the 2024/25 season, the project has engaged 126 adults aged 18 and over who were unemployed or in insecure employment. It has helped deliver courses and provide qualifications in football coaching, catering and hospitality in sports, youth leadership, youth mentoring, and most recently, stewarding and Level 2 Spectator Safety, in partnership with the club's health and safety team. These courses have enabled participants to progress into paid roles at the club and with other local organisations.

As part of our employability programme for young people aged between 13 and 18, funded by the Connolly Foundation, we deliver targeted employability and youth work sessions for those disengaged from education, employment, or training, particularly from the most disadvantaged areas, providing opportunities they might not otherwise receive.

We run and support weekly sessions, workshops, and events across schools and community settings, alongside work experience placements within club departments, helping young people take positive steps forward in life.

In the past six months, we have engaged

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over 200 participants from more than 20 schools and community organisations, most of whom face one or more risk factors, such as disengagement from education, not being in education or training, risk of exclusion, receiving pupil premium funding, or experiencing wellbeing concerns.

For example, last year we supported pupils from Putteridge High School to build confidence and interview skills through mock interviews, with several Luton Town club staff in attendance across departments from finance, HR and operations to Academy, catering and hospitality, media and the Community Trust.

We have also supported over 20 career days and events at schools and community settings, helping young people explore opportunities and connect with staff from Luton Town, the Community Trust, and local partners.



Town CFO Tom Schofield gives his advice

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Ladies snatch late point against Sudbury

Amy McLean's 97th-minute equaliser secured the Town Ladies a point against AFC Sudbury last weekend.

The Town started on the front foot. Last Sunday's goalscorer, Shianne Swarres, saw her long-range attempt bobble wide of Peachy's post.

Despite early pressure from the Hatters, it was the visitors who took the lead with seven minutes played. Kaci-Jay Bonwick found herself in behind the Town defence and slotted past Nicole Melling.

The Hatters weren't to be kept behind for long. Fiona Buttigieg picked up the ball in space out on the left-hand side and delivered a pinpoint delivery into the area for Tasha Fensome, who powerfully headed past Peachy, for her eighth league goal of the season.

Buttigieg was enjoying a lot of free space in the opening stages and she delivered another ball into the area this time for Elizabeth Mulvaney who could only head over.

With 25 minutes on the clock, the Hatters took the lead. Lisa Milliken's free-kick delivery into Courtnay Ward-Chambers was collected superbly on the turn by the forward who steadied herself before firing the ball into the far-right corner – her first goal for the club since returning in December.

With minutes of normal time at the end of the first half remaining, Sudbury struck level. A free-kick struck to perfection by Amy-Leigh Abrehart flew into the top left corner out of Melling's reach.

The Town were then dealt another blow deep into added time when Abrehart capitalised on a defensive mix-up to give the Suds a 3-2 lead heading into the break.

After a slow start to the second half, Myles Maddix looked to the bench. Amber Leighton was called into action replacing Leyah Maddix.

With 15 minutes remaining the Hatters were still struggling to test Sudbury's Peachy. Amy McLean and Emily Wilson were the next pair to be introduced, replacing Courtnay Ward-Chambers and Jànaye Beaufort.

A late challenge from a Sudbury defender led to a Luton free-kick right on the edge of the visitors' area. Buttigieg stood over it but was unable to generate the power needed to beat Peachy.

However, in the seventh minute of additional time at the end of the 90, McLean's composed finish salvaged a point for the Town, who now go four unbeaten across all competitions.

A disappointed Maddix said afterwards: "I think we lacked desire. We lacked the passion and heart that we usually carry with us through every game.

"To go in 3-2 down was a bit of a shock, we dominated the second half a little bit more, but didn't put the ball in the back of the net. Then towards the end, I did what any coach would do chasing a game, get the forwards on and we were fortunate enough to get something from the game. Disappointed is definitely the word."

Town XI: Melling, Lewis, Swarres, Tambula, Fensome, Mulvaney, Maddix, Buttigieg, Milliken, WardChambers, Beaufort.

Subs not used: Hudson, Blacksley, Dickens.

2025/26 FIXTURES

AUGUST
17 Dulwich Hamlet W 3-1
20 Tottenham (NLC) W 4-1
24 Cambridge Utd W 5-0
31 Actonians L 0-4

SEPTEMBER
7 Milton Keynes (NLC) W 2-1
14 Norwich City L 0-4
21 Milton Keynes W 2-0
28 Oxford Utd (NLC) L 0-4

OCTOBER
5 Milton Keynes (FAC) W 5-1
26 Mansfield Town (FAC) W 3-0
29 Chesham Utd W 4-1

NOVEMBER
2 London Bees L 0-1
16 QPR D 2-2
23 Oxford United (FAC) L 1-3
30 Chatham Town L 0-1

DECEMBER
7 Fulham P-P
14 Dulwich Hamlet D 1-1

JANUARY
4 Cambridge Utd P-P
25 Norwich City D 1-1

FEBRUARY
1 AFC Sudbury D 3-3
8 Actonians
18 Chesham Utd
22 AFC Sudbury

MARCH
8 Milton Keynes
22 London Bees
29 QPR

APRIL
12 Fulham
26 Chatham Town



Celebrations during last weekend's 3-3 draw

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JUNIOR HATTERS



Alexis Austerberry

Age: 12
Hobbies: Football, rugby, computing and gaming
Favourite Player: Elijah Adebayo



Jack Walshaw

Age: 8
Hobbies: Football, rugby, basketball
Favourite Player: Josh Keeley



Grayson Blizzard

Age: 8
Hobbies: Football, sports, gaming and art
Favourite Player: Liam Walsh



Theodore Johnson

Age: 12
Hobbies: Playing football (goalkeeper for Crawley Spartans) and plays for Luton Rugby Club
Favourite Player: Gideon Kodua



JJ Wilshere

Hobbies: Football
Happy Birthday for yesterday!
Favourite Player: Kasey Palmer

Siena Wilshere

Age: 7
Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Nakhi Wells



Kai Gregory

Age: 10
Hobbies: Playing football and darts
Favourite Player: Josh Keeley

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TICKET *news*

HOME TICKETS

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£25 Senior (over 66)	£22 Senior (over 66)
£21 Golden Senior (over 75)	£18 Golden Senior (over 75)
£25 Young Adult (under 22)	£22 Young Adult (under 22)
£21 Under 19	£18 Under 19
£13 Under 17	£10 Under 17
£10 Under 14	£8 Under 14

AWAY TICKETS

v Cardiff City
Saturday 14th February, 3pm

Luton Town supporters have received an initial allocation of 1,677 reserved seats for our fixture at Cardiff.

Please note physical tickets will be issued for this match. Tickets will be sent via post or left for collection.

Subject to availability, tickets are currently on general sale in person or by calling the ticket office.

Prices

Adults £27
Seniors (Over 60+) £21
Young Adults Under 22 (16-21) - £18
Under 16s - £13

**Under 14s will not be permitted to enter the stadium without being accompanied by an individual aged 18 years or over.*

Ambulant disabled supporters pay their relevant price class with a PA free of charge providing they are in receipt of DLA Middle/Higher Rate of Care or Standard/Higher rate PIP.

There are 12 accessible parking bays available for supporters with a valid blue badge, to book one of these please email **ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk** with a copy of your Blue Badge, full name and car registration, we will then advise if you have been successful.

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v Burton Albion

Saturday 21st February, 3pm
Category B

v Reading

Saturday 7th March, 3pm
Category A

v Exeter City

Tuesday 17th February, 7.45pm
Category B

v Stockport County

Saturday 21st March, 3pm
Category B

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LEAGUE LOOK



Corey Blackett-Taylor scored Bolton's winner against AFC Wimbledon

No shortage of drama once again in the third tier

The last week of League One football was nothing short of full entertainment as usual.

From unexpected scorelines, awesome goals and late drama, it all made up a great week of third tier football.

Bolton earned a vital away win against AFC Wimbledon, a first-half Corey Blackett-Taylor goal enough for the Lilywhites. Mansfield and Wycombe drew 0-0 in a forgettable affair at Field Mill.

Today's opponents Bradford came out on top against Doncaster as a Tyreik Wright stunner got the three points for the Bantams. Reading earned a routine away win against Northampton, winning 2-0 with Jack Marriott again on target.

Port Vale celebrated a rare win away from home, beating Leyton Orient 1-0 in East London while Barnsley dispatched Stevenage, Conor Hourihane's side winning 3-1.

The Town beat Blackpool 1-0 and Lincoln continued their fine form with a narrow victory over Wigan. The Imps closed the gap on leaders Cardiff who were held to a 2-2 draw away at Burton as a Kyran Lofthouse goal denied them three points.

Stockport came from behind at home against Plymouth to beat Tom Cleverley's side 2-1 with Kyle Wootton bagging a brace to push County into fourth place.

Huddersfield clung onto sixth place as they picked up a huge away win against in-form Peterborough, winning 3-2 at the Weston Homes Stadium. The Terriers went 2-0 up, were pegged back to 2-2 but a late Cameron Humphreys goal won Liam Manning's side the match.

In today's games, the top two are both on the road with Cardiff making the trip to Rotherham and Lincoln travelling to Plymouth.

PLAYER STATS *2025/26*

	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		LTFC CAREER	
	APP(S)	GLS	APP(S)	GLS	APP(S)	GLS	APPS	GLS
Elijah Adebayo	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	182	47
Ali Al-Hamadi	0 (3)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (4)	0	4	0
Millenic Alli	12 (4)	1	3 (3)	0	15 (7)	1	38	5
Mads Andersen	21 (3)	2	4 (0)	1	25 (3)	3	47	4
Ethon Archer	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Shandon Baptiste	2 (2)	0	0 (0)	0	2 (2)	0	21	1
Cohen Bramall	17 (10)	2	5 (0)	1	22 (10)	3	32	3
Jacob Brown	3 (4)	0	0 (1)	0	3 (5)	0	60	7
Christian Chigozie	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2	0
Jordan Clark	19 (4)	8	1 (0)	0	20 (4)	8	203	26
Fin Evans	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	1	1 (0)	1	1	1
Lamine Fanne	15 (6)	1	4 (2)	1	19 (8)	2	40	2
Harry Fox	0 (0)	0	1 (2)	0	1 (2)	0	3	0
Dawid Gawel	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Joe Gbode	0 (5)	0	1 (2)	0	1 (7)	0	8	0
Tom Holmes	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	22	1
Zach Ioannides	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Joe Johnson	8 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	10 (0)	0	25	0
Isaiah Jones	3 (2)	1	1 (0)	0	4 (2)	1	24	3
Josh Keeley	28 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	29 (0)	0	29	0
Gideon Kodua	17 (7)	9	4 (3)	1	21 (10)	10	31	10
Emilio Lawrence	3 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	4 (1)	0	5	0
Nigel Lonwijk	21 (1)	1	3 (2)	0	24 (3)	1	27	1
Jack Lorentzen-Jones	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Christ Makosso	10 (1)	0	3 (1)	0	13 (2)	0	28	0
Mark McGuinness	4 (2)	0	1 (0)	0	5 (2)	0	51	3
Teden Mengi	18 (0)	0	3 (0)	1	21 (0)	1	76	3
Shayden Morris	5 (13)	2	3 (2)	2	8 (15)	4	23	4
Kal Naismith	21 (3)	1	3 (1)	0	24 (4)	1	106	5
Marvelous Nakamba	0 (1)	0	2 (1)	0	2 (2)	0	61	0
Zack Nelson	6 (12)	1	7 (1)	1	13 (13)	2	51	3
Lasse Nordas	4 (7)	1	5 (1)	3	9 (8)	4	27	4
Hakeem Odoffin	2 (4)	0	1 (1)	0	3 (5)	0	8	0
Kasey Palmer	3 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	3	0
Josh Phillips	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	3	0
Jake Richards	6 (5)	2	3 (3)	0	9 (8)	2	17	2
Sverre Sandal	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0
George Saville	20 (5)	1	3 (0)	0	23 (5)	1	28	1
James Shea	1 (0)	0	7 (0)	0	8 (0)	0	118	0
Davy van den Berg	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0
Liam Walsh	18 (3)	0	4 (1)	0	22 (4)	0	54	0
Reuell Walters	3 (1)	0	3 (0)	0	6 (1)	0	23	0
Nahki Wells	18 (6)	2	1 (0)	2	19 (6)	4	25	4
Cauley Woodrow	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	82	6
Jerry Yates	11 (11)	2	3 (4)	5	14 (15)	7	29	7

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FIXTURES & RESULTS 2025/26

		KO	RES		POS	ATT	AWAY							
AUGUST														
FRI 1	**AFC WIMBLEDON** TV	**20:00**	W	1-0	12	11,735	1,321	Keeley	Walters	Lonwijk	Makosso	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
SAT 8	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	12:30	W	2-0	4	10,827	2,995	Keeley	Walters	Alli	Makosso	**ANDERSEN 1**	Naismith	Saville
TUE 12	COVENTRY CITY (CC1)	19:45	L	0-1	-	10,536	515	Shea	Kodua	Bramall	Chigozie	McGuinness	Holmes	Walsh
SAT 16	BRADFORD CITY	15:00	L	1-2	9	20,233	1,338	Keeley	Alli	Lonwijk	McGuinness	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
TUE 19	**WIGAN ATHLETIC**	**19:45**	W	1-0	6	10,751	562	Keeley	Kodua	Bramall	Lonwijk	McGuinness	Naismith	**SAVILLE 1**
SAT 23	**CARDIFF CITY** TV	**12:30**	L	0-1	11	11,456	1,345	Keeley	Lonwijk	Alli	Makosso	McGuinness	Naismith	Saville
SAT 30	BURTON ALBION	15:00	W	3-0	7	4,487	1,675	Keeley	Kodua	**ALLI 1**	Makosso	McGuinness	Lonwijk	Saville
SEPTEMBER														
TUE 2	**BARNET (VT)**	**19:30**	W	4-1	-	3,157	404	Shea	Kodua	**BRAMALL 1**	Chigozie	Makosso	Naismith	Richards
SAT 13	**PLYMOUTH ARGYLE**	**15:00**	L	2-3	9	11,801	1,342	Keeley	Kodua	Alli	Makosso	Andersen	Lonwijk	Saville
SAT 20	LINCOLN CITY TV	12:30	L	1-3	11	9,255	1,433	Keeley	Lonwijk	Alli	Mengi	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
SAT 27	**DONCASTER ROVERS**	**15:00**	W	1-0	10	10,597	1,072	Keeley	Makosso	**NAISMITH 1**	Mengi	Andersen	Fanne	Saville
TUE 30	BLACKPOOL	19:45	D	2-2	7	8,530	520	Keeley	Makosso	Bramall	Naismith	Andersen	Fanne	Saville
OCTOBER														
SAT 4	STEVENAGE	15:00	L	0-2	11	7,228	1,363	Keeley	Makosso	Naismith	Mengi	Andersen	Fanne	Saville
TUE 7	CAMBRIDGE UNITED (VT)	19:00	L	1-3	-	1,767	591	Shea	Lonwijk	Bramall	Mengi	**ANDERSEN 1**	Naismith	Nelson
SAT 18	**MANSFIELD TOWN**	**15:00**	L	0-2	14	11,784	1,308	Keeley	Makosso	Naismith	Mengi	Andersen	Fanne	Saville
SAT 25	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	15:00	W	1-0	10	8,029	1,551	Keeley	Lonwijk	Bramall	Mengi	Naismith	**FANNE 1**	Saville
TUE 28	**BRIGHTON & HA U21 (VT)**	**19:00**	W	3-1	-	2,212	69	Shea	Odoffin	Bramall	**EVANS 1**	Andersen	Nakamba	Walsh
FRI 31	**FOREST GREEN (FAC1)**	**19:30**	W	4-3	-	4,511	462	Keeley	Lonwijk	Bramall	Mengi	Naismith	**FANNE 1**	Saville
NOVEMBER														
SAT 8	STOCKPORT COUNTY	15:00	W	3-0	9	10,090	1,151	Keeley	**JONES 1**	**BRAMALL 1**	Mengi	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
SAT 15	**ROTHERHAM UNITED**	**15:00**	D	0-0	8	11,091	711	Keeley	Jones	Bramall	Mengi	Andersen	Naismith	Walsh
SAT 22	BARNSLEY	15:00	L	0-5	12	10,882	1,478	Keeley	Jones	Bramall	Mengi	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
TUE 25	**HUDDERSFIELD TOWN**	**19:45**	W	2-1	7	9,971	589	Keeley	Odoffin	Bramall	Mengi	Lonwijk	Naismith	Saville
SAT 29	**BOLTON WANDERERS**	**15:00**	D	1-1	7	11,204	1,329	Keeley	Odoffin	Bramall	Mengi	Lonwijk	Naismith	Saville
DECEMBER														
TUE 2	**EXETER CITY (VT)**	**19:00**	W	4-0		2,233	136	Shea	Walters	Johnson	Andersen	Makosso	Nakamba	**NELSON 1**
SAT 6	FLEETWOOD TOWN (FAC2)	15:00	D	2-2*		1,180	663	Shea	Walters	Johnson	Andersen	**MENGI 1**	Saville	Nelson
TUE 9	LEYTON ORIENT	19:45	D	1-1	7	8,176	1,246	Keeley	Lonwijk	Bramall	Naismith	Mengi	Saville	Walsh
SAT 13	**PORT VALE**	**15:00**	D	2-2	7	10,867	1,041	Keeley	Lonwijk	**BRAMALL 1**	Naismith	Mengi	**ANDERSEN 1**	Saville
THU 18	READING	20:00	L	2-3	7	9,252	1,101	Keeley	**LONWIJK 1**	Bramall	Naismith	Mengi	Andersen	**CLARK 1**
FRI 26	**WYCOMBE WANDERERS**	**15:00**	W	4-0	8	11,596	1,092	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Mengi	Walsh	Fanne
MON 29	**LEYTON ORIENT**	**19:45**	W	3-0	8	11,736	1,327	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Mengi	Walsh	Fanne
JANUARY														
THU 1	EXETER CITY	15:00	L	0-1	8	7,912	966	Shea	Walters	Johnson	Lonwijk	Mengi	Walsh	Saville
SAT 10	**STEVENAGE** TV	**12:30**	W	2-1	7	11,434	1,299	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Makosso	Walsh	Fanne
TUE 13	**SWINDON TOWN (VT)**	**19:00**	L	1-2		3,243	585	Shea	Walters	Fox	Lonwijk	Makosso	Saville	Fanne
SAT 17	**LINCOLN CITY**	**15:00**	D	2-2	7	11,230	1,328	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Naismith	Walsh	Bramall
SAT 24	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE TV	12:30	L	0-1	7	15,949	790	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Naismith	Walsh	Palmer
TUE 27	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	19:45	L	0-1	9	15,367	397	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Mengi	Walsh	Palmer
SAT 31	**BLACKPOOL**	**15:00**	W	1-0	7	10,697	728	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Mengi	Palmer	**CLARK 1**
FEBRUARY														
SAT 7	**BRADFORD CITY** TV	**12:31**												
SAT 14	CARDIFF CITY	15:00												
WED 18	WIGAN ATHLETIC	19:45												
SAT 21	**BURTON ALBION**	**15:00**												
TUE 24	DONCASTER ROVERS	19:45												
SAT 28	PORT VALE	15:00												
MARCH														
SAT 7	**READING**	**15:00**												
SAT 14	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	15:00												
TUE 17	**EXETER CITY**	**19:45**												
SAT 21	**STOCKPORT COUNTY**	**15:00**												
SAT 28	ROTHERHAM UNITED	15:00												
APRIL														
FRI 3	**PETERBOROUGH UNITED**	**15:00**												
MON 6	AFC WIMBLEDON	15:00												
SAT 11	**NORTHAMPTON TOWN**	**15:00**												
SAT 18	MANSFIELD TOWN	15:00												
SAT 25	**BARNSLEY**	**15:00**												
MAY														
SAT 2	BOLTON WANDERERS	15:00												

*lost 4-2 on penalties

EFL STATEMENT: VERTU TROPHY

The EFL have confirmed that Swindon Town have been removed from the Vertu Trophy.

A statement from the Football League read:

An Independent Disciplinary Commission has determined that Swindon Town Football Club is to be removed from this season's Vertu Trophy competition for breaches of EFL Regulations and EFL Trophy Rules.

The Club has also been issued with a fine of £40,000, of which £20,000 will be suspended and which will be automatically payable if the Club fields or names on a team sheet an ineligible player before the end of the 2026/27 season.

The breaches relate to the Club fielding two ineligible players against Luton Town in the Vertu Trophy Round of 16 tie on 13th January 2026. Swindon Town won the game 2-1.

The Club played Oliver Clarke, who was serving a seven-game suspension from the Football Association. In addition, Aaron Drinan, who started the second half of the tie, was not named on the official team sheet.

As a result of the decision, Luton Town will progress into the Vertu Trophy quarter-final, where they will host Plymouth Argyle.

The date of the tie will be confirmed by the EFL in the coming days but will not take place on Tuesday 10th February 2026 as originally scheduled, following a request from Plymouth Argyle.

We will update our supporters on the next steps in due course.

				SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3	SUB 4	SUB 5
Clark	Walsh	Alli	Wells	Nelson	Fanne	Baptiste	Woodrow	McGuinness
CLARK 1	Baptiste	Yates	Wells	Lonwijk	Walsh	Fanne	McGuinness	Nelson
Nelson	Fanne	Woodrow	Nordås	Lonwijk	Alli	Richards	Yates	Phillips
Clark	Baptiste	Fanne	Yates	KODUA 1	Bramall	Nordås	Nelson	Walsh
Clark	Walsh	Alli	Yates	Nordås	Nelson	Holmes		
Clark	Walsh	Wells	Nordås	Yates	Kodua	Nelson	Baptiste	Bramall
Clark	NELSON 1	Yates	NORDÅS 1	Wells	Walsh	Naismith	Bramall	
Walsh	Nelson	YATES 1	NORDÅS 1	MORRIS 1	Alli	Lonwijk	Fanne	Phillips
Clark	Nelson	YATES 1	Nordås	WELLS 1	Naismith	Morris	Bramall	Gbodé
CLARK 1	Nelson	Yates	Wells	Gbodé	Morris	Makosso	Bramall	Nordås
Morris	Nelson	Alli	Wells	Kodua	Gbodé	Nakamba	Bramall	Richards
Morris	Nelson	Alli	Wells	CLARK 1	Gbodé	KODUA 1	Richards	Nordås
Kodua	Richards	Bramall	Nordås	Gbodé	Alli	Clark	Morris	Wells
Clark	Morris	Alli	Nordås	Richards	Fanne	Yates	Kodua	Gbodé
Clark	Kodua	Alli	Wells	Yates	Nelson	Bramall	Nordås	
Clark	Kodua	Richards	Wells	Yates	Jones	Odoffin	Andersen	
Nelson	Kodua	Gbodé	YATES 2	Fox	Alli	Makosso	Nordå	Richards
Walsh	Richards	Jones	WELLS 2	Al-Hamadi	Nelson	Yates	KODUA 1	Odoffin
Walsh	RICHARDS 1	Fanne	Wells	Kodua	Odoffin	Yates	Al-Hamadi	
Fanne	Richards	Yates	Wells	Kodua	Nelson	Brown	Alli	
Walsh	Nelson	Kodua	Wells	Yates	Alli	Richards	Odoffin	Fanne
Walsh	RICHARDS 1	Fanne	YATES 1	Brown	Andersen	Morris		
Walsh	Brown	Fanne	Yates	KODUA 1	Morris	Alli		
MORRIS 1	Alli	Kodua	NORDÅS 2	Gbodé	Ioannides	Fox	L-Jones	
Richards	Fanne	Alli	Nordås	Walsh	Kodua	YATES 1	Brown	Morris Naismith
Fanne	Brown	KODUA 1	Yates	Andersen	Morris	Clark	Nordås	Nelson
Walsh	Alli	Kodua	Brown	Morris	Clark	Wells	Fanne	Nordås
Walsh	Fanne	Kodua	Wells	Morris	Yates	Brown	Nelson	Saville
KODUA 2	CLARK 1	Bramall	Wells	Yates	Saville	Odoffin	MORRIS 1	Nelson
KODUA 1	CLARK 1	MORRIS 1	Wells	Saville	Bramall	Nelson	Yates	Walters
Morris	Clark	Bramall	Yates	Wells	Brown	Fanne	Nelson	
KODUA 1	CLARK 1	Lawrence	Wells	Morris	Bramall	Yates	Saville	
Morris	Nelson	Lawrence	YATES 1	Nakamba	Archer	Gawel		
Clark	KODUA 1	Lawrence	WELLS 1	Morris	Richards	Yates		
Clark	Kodua	Lawrence	Wells	Morris	Bramall	Yates		
Richards	Kodua	Bramall	Clark	Morris	Wells	Al-Hamadi	Lawrence	Fanne
Morris	Kodua	Bramall	Wells	Richards	Jones	Al-Hamadi	Saville	Naismith

THE QUIZ

Can you answer these 10 Town teasers? Quiz your family members and see if they can get all 10! The prize? Nothing – just pride and honour. Let's get into it…

1. Against which club did Davy van den Berg play his last game for Utrecht?

2. How old is Sverre Sandal?

3. At which club did Devante Cole make his senior debut for?

4. Which four clubs did Graham Alexander play for in his playing career?

5. Which club attained the second-fewest Premier League points in a season – and with how many – and in what season?

6. What was the score when the Hatters last met Bradford at Kenilworth Road?

7. Which club did Kalvin Phillips join on loan?

8. Which two players are the joint-top goalscorers in League One with 15 goals?

9. Which club in League Two are yet to lose a home league game this season?

10. Name the Premier League player with the most assists (12) this season.

1 Celtic 2 22 3 Barnsley 4 Scunthorpe, Luton, Preston, Burnley 5 Southampton, '12, last season 6 We won 4-0 7 Sheffield United 8 Dom Ballard and Kyle Wootton (15 goals each) 9 Bromley 10 Bruno Fernandes

TABLE 2025/26

Team	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Cardiff	29	18	6	5	23	60
Lincoln	29	17	7	5	19	58
Bolton	30	14	10	6	11	52
Stockport	29	15	7	7	7	52
Bradford City	**28**	**14**	**7**	**7**	**5**	**49**
Huddersfield	30	14	6	10	11	48
Luton	**29**	**12**	**6**	**11**	**4**	**42**
Stevenage	28	11	9	8	3	42
Wycombe	29	10	10	9	5	40
Reading	28	10	10	8	4	40
Mansfield	27	10	8	9	6	38
Peterborough	29	12	2	15	-2	38
Exeter	28	11	4	13	3	37
Barnsley	26	10	7	9	-1	37
Plymouth	29	11	4	14	-6	37
Wimbledon	28	10	5	13	-7	35
Doncaster	29	9	6	14	-13	33
Blackpool	29	9	5	15	-7	32
Leyton Orient	29	9	5	15	-9	32
Wigan	28	7	10	11	-5	31
Rotherham	28	8	7	13	-9	31
Burton A	29	8	7	14	-12	31
Northampton	29	8	6	15	-12	30
Port Vale	27	5	6	16	-18	21

TODAY'S Fixtures

12.31PM KO

Port Vale v Burton

3.01PM KO

AFC Wimbledon v Reading
Bolton v Barnsley
Huddersfield v Blackpool
Mansfield v Exeter
Northampton v Stevenage
Peterborough v Wigan
Plymouth v Lincoln
Rotherham v Cardiff
Stockport v Leyton Orient
Wycombe v Doncaster

TOWN Totals

	W	D	L	F	A
HOME	1574	696	636	5804	3268
AWAY	750	719	1422	3325	4982
NEUTRAL	6	4	13	29	43
TOTAL	2330	1419	2071	9158	8293
At KR	1444	668	582	5265	3022

5,820 games played

Hatters Heritage's ***Roger Wash*** *looks back on some of our finest ever campaigns*

SEASONS TO REMEMBER *1976/77*



With so many promising youngsters pushing for places, Luton manager Harry Haslam decided to have a clear-out of some of the older players over the summer of 1976.

The only new signing of note was former Celtic and Scotland forward Dixie Deans and, although he enjoyed a scoring debut, his star shone brightly for only a short time as off-field indiscretions and suspect temperament on it saw him gone by Christmas.

On New Year's Day the Town sat 12th in the table following a defeat at Bristol Rovers and had proved wonderfully inconsistent, capable of losing heavily one week and pulling off a remarkable win the next.

What happened next was to go down in the record books. A run of 11 wins and a draw from the next 12 games sent the Town shooting up the table to third with promotion back to the top flight a distinct possibility.

Supporters have never quite worked out why this sudden change in form came about but a settled side, the previously mentioned youngsters coming of age and the mid-season signing of goalkeeper Milija Aleksic were all factors.

Sadly, the run came to an end with a narrow defeat at Southampton followed by a disastrous Easter when only one point was picked up from three games. The team could never recover from this and drifted to a final position of sixth, four points off a promotion place.

It had been fun while it lasted though, and the younger members of the team, Steve Buckley, the Futcher twins, Lil Fuccillo and Paul Price would all prove better for the experience.

SECOND DIVISION	PLD	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1 Wolverhampton Wanderers (P)	42	22	13	7	39	57
2 Chelsea (P)	42	21	13	8	20	55
3 Nottingham Forest (P)	42	21	10	11	34	52
4 Bolton Wanderers	42	20	11	11	21	51
5 Blackpool	42	17	17	8	16	51
6 Luton Town	**42**	**21**	**6**	**15**	**19**	**48**
7 Charlton Athletic	42	16	16	10	13	48
8 Notts County	42	19	10	13	5	48
9 Southampton	42	17	10	15	5	44
10 Millwall	42	15	13	14	4	43
11 Sheffield United	42	14	12	16	−9	40
12 Blackburn Rovers	42	15	9	18	−12	39
13 Oldham Athletic	42	14	10	18	−12	38
14 Hull City	42	10	17	15	−8	37
15 Bristol Rovers	42	12	13	17	−15	37
16 Burnley	42	11	14	17	−18	36
17 Fulham	42	11	13	18	−7	35
18 Cardiff City	42	12	10	20	−11	34
19 Orient	42	9	16	17	−18	34
20 Carlisle United (R)	42	11	12	19	−26	34
21 Plymouth Argyle (R)	42	8	16	18	−19	32
22 Hereford United (R)	42	8	15	19	−21	31

Player focus

Ever present during the season, left-back **Steve Buckley** became a crowd favourite with his marauding runs down the wing coupled with a hammer of a left foot shot.



Season standout

The mid-season signing of the brave and agile goalkeeper **Milija Aleksic** from Plymouth proved a masterstroke. Soon nicknamed 'Elastic' by the Kenilworth Road faithful he lived up to his name.



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the TEAMS

LUTON TOWN

MANAGER **JACK WILSHERE**

1	JAMES **SHEA**
3	KAL **NAISMITH**
4	SVERRE **SANDAL**
5	MADS **ANDERSEN**
6	DAVY **VAN DEN BERG**
8	LIAM **WALSH**
11	ELIJAH **ADEBAYO**
12	ALI **AL-HAMADI**
14	SHAYDEN **MORRIS**
15	TEDEN **MENGI**
16	HAKEEM **ODOFFIN**
17	NIGEL **LONWIJK**
18	JORDAN **CLARK**
21	NAHKI **WELLS**
22	DEVANTE **COLE**
23	GEORGE **SAVILLE**
24	JOSH **KEELEY**
25	ISAIAH **JONES**
26	SHANDON **BAPTISTE**
27	JAKE **RICHARDS**
30	GIDEON **KODUA**
32	EMILIO **LAWRENCE**
33	COHEN **BRAMALL**
38	JOE **JOHNSON**
54	KASEY **PALMER**

BRADFORD CITY

MANAGER **GRAHAM ALEXANDER**

1	SAM **WALKER**
3	IBOU **TOURAY**
4	JOE **WRIGHT**
6	MAX **POWER**
7	JOSH **NEUFVILLE**
10	ANTONI **SARCEVIC**
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